In the Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) A dry powder pharmaceutical composition for inhalation therapy comprising salmeterol or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof and fluticasone propionate, an excipient and a derivatized carbohydrate in particulate form wherein the derivatized carbohydrate has an aerodynamic size in the range 1 - 20 μm.

2. (Previously Presented) A dry powder pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1 in which salmeterol is present as its 1-hydroxy-2-naphthoate salt.

3. (Previously Presented) A dry powder pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1 in which the derivatized carbohydrate is a mono or di-saccharide in which at least one hydroxyl group of the carbohydrate group is substituted with a hydrophobic moiety via either ester or ethers linkages.

4. (Previously Presented) A dry powder pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1 in which the derivatized carbohydrate is a carbohydrate selected from fructose, glucose, mannitol, maltose, mannitol, trehalose, cellobiose, lactose and sucrose in which at least one hydroxyl group of said carbohydrate is substituted by a straight or branched hydrocarbon chain comprising up to 20 carbon atoms.

5. (Previously Presented) A dry powder pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1 in which the derivatized carbohydrate is selected from the group consisting of cellobiose octaacetate, sucrose octaacetate, glucose pentacetate, mannitol hexaacetate and trehalose octaacetate.

6. (Previously Presented) A dry powder pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1 in which the derivatized carbohydrate is α-D cellobiose octaacetate.

7. (Previously Presented) A dry powder pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1 in which the derivatized carbohydrate is present at a concentration of less than 10% of the total composition.

8. (Cancelled).

9. (Previously Presented) A dry powder pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1 in which one component of the excipient has a particle size of less than 15μm (the fine excipient component) and another component of the excipient has a particle size of greater than 20μm but lower than 150μm (the coarse excipient component).

10. (Original) A dry powder pharmaceutical composition according to claim 9 in which the fine and coarse excipient components are both lactose.

11. (Previously Presented) A dry powder pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1 for use in therapy.

12. (Canceled).

13. (Canceled)

14. (Canceled).

15. (Canceled).

16. (Canceled).

17. (Canceled).

18. (Canceled).

19. (Canceled).

20. (Canceled).

21. (Canceled).

22. (Withdrawn) A method of improving stability performance in dry powder pharmaceutical compositions comprising salmeterol or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof and fluticasone propionate, said method including the step of including in said composition a particulate derivatized carbohydrate.

23. (Withdrawn) A method of eliminating or reducing the detrimental effect on fine particle dose experienced during storage of a dry powder pharmaceutical composition comprising salmeterol or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof and fluticasone propionate, wherein said method comprises the step of including a particulate derivatized carbohydrate in said dry powder pharmaceutical compositions.

24. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 22 in which the particulate derivatized carbohydrate is cellobiose octaacetate.

25. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 23 in which the particulate derivatized carbohydrate is cellobiose octaacetate.